

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2015

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: LaPointe, Campbell, Idleman, Pitts, Dumas, Gang

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Fedler

SUPERVISORS: O'Brien, Shaw, Hicks, Armstrong, Lindsay

Sandy Huffer, Deputy Clerk

Al Nolette, Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Kevin Hayes, Administrator

Tammy DeLorme, DSS Commissioner

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director OFA

Mike Gray, Youth Director

Patty Hunt, Public Health Director

Tina McDougall, Fiscal Public Health
Public

C. Scanlon, Post Star

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Accept Minutes - February 25, 2015
- 3) Department Reports/Requests
 - A. Youth Bureau
 1. Agency Update
 - B. Social Services
 1. 2014 Annual Report
 2. Agency Updates
 - C. ADRC/OFA
 1. Annual Plan
 2. Program Updates
- 4) Other Business
- 5) Adjournment

Chairman LaPointe called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2015 meeting, was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted.

YOUTH BUREAU – Mike Gray, Director addressed the following with the committee:

- Agency Updates – Is working with Public Health on a summer physical activity program similar to winter fest. They are in the planning phase so more details will be brought forward in the next month or two.
- STSJP Youth Employment – Informed the committee of a program that will use one-time unspent detention funding carried over (\$70,954) offering jobs to at-risk youth. The goal is to reduce the risk factors such as substance abuse, school discipline referrals, family issues and police contacts. The program content would include soft skills training such as resume, portfolio, interviewing, application and employability skills, and job placement/work experience. The program will be based on positive youth development principles, having them participate in the development of their case plan. He proposes contracting with EOC to process the payroll. They will maintain these relationships and offer support services up to a year or beyond. The program assessment will not just be based on job placement, but how many negative drug screens, increased academic performance, less behavioral problems, less family incidents and police contacts. They will use \$30,000 of the unspent funds for this program and will serve about 30 youth. Tammy DeLorme added that this is already built into the budget, and no resolution is needed. He is also proposing to use \$5,000 of the unspent funds to purchase gift cards to be able to purchase clothing or other needed items for the targeted youth. He has already worked this out with the Treasurer and County Administrator.

He proposes offering the remaining funds to the community rec programs to provide services to this population.

- Roger Wickes stated that Raise the Age, as of today is out of the state budget. The concept is not going away. In Connecticut it took eight years to implement, from concept to reality.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES - Tammy DeLorme, DSS Commissioner addressed the following with the committee:

- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and asked everyone to wear blue on Thursday, April 9th.
- Distributed Joint 2014 DSS & OFA Annual Report Supplement. This report will be posted on the County website. In 2014 twelve adoptions were finalized. Tammy noted the number of youth in foster care trended down last year. She has also noticed a downward trend in the use of temporary assistance.
- Distributed a handout inviting Supervisors to “shadow” a worker from DSS and/or OFA.
- Distributed a handout as a reminder that they are always looking for worksites for clients. The individual works hours based on how much assistance they are receiving. DSS provides the compensation or equivalent protection for on the job injuries.

ACRC/OFA - Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director, addressed the following with the Committee:

- Thanked Supervisors who participated in the Home Delivered Meals event on March 17th.
- March is National Nutrition Month. Distributed handout showing workflow for meal delivery and meal expense analysis. OFA pays the jail \$4.32 per meal. The estimated net local cost is \$.97 per meal. This cost analysis does not include donations which will offset this cost. Contributions run about \$70,000 per year. The socializing aspect of this program is also very important.
- Grant Opportunity – Balancing Incentive Program (BIP) for Caregiver Support - \$20,000 with no local match. Was developed through the Department of Health and NYS Office for the Aging. This program is designed to provide care giver services for caregivers who serve Medicaid-eligible individuals. Services to be provided in this county include personal care assistance, social adult day services and companionship services. We do all the paperwork. The money will come through us and we contract with other agencies to deliver the services. A motion to authorize applying for this funding, was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted. The state has allocated the funds for us. We will need a budget amendment. A motion forward to Finance a budget amendment for \$20,000, was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted.
- Last year the Board approved adding one Aging Services Assistant making a total of four. The state has not scheduled a test for this position. One person in this title has left so they are down to three. She would like to temporarily allow the remaining three employees to work up to 40 hours to supplement the workload until the position is filled. After that they will go back to 35 hours. This falls within the current budget and staffing pattern so no action is needed.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Patty Hunt, Director addressed the following with the committee:

- We are participating in the National Diabetes Prevention Program through our relationship with Adirondack Health Institute. We have a health educator trained in the program. There is

a class of five or six people and the Adirondack Health Institute wants to provide the participants t-shirts. It's not a county expense but because it is through our group, they want to be able to put our logo on the t-shirt. If it says sponsored by Washington County Public Health, Roger feels it is ok to use the logo. A motion to approve allowing the county logo on t-shirts for participants in the program, was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Gang and adopted.

- National Health Rankings were released today. Patty distributed a packet of information that included ranking analysis for 2015, trend analysis (2010-2015), some background information, a comparison with bordering counties and Health Factors and Health Outcomes with all NYS counties by rank (on file). This data is used by the state to check that the county is working on the areas that we score low on. The state has gone to a data and statistical based system when it comes to public health. Patty added that the state is placing a tremendous amount of energy and faith in the statistical data. The concern is that in time, if we don't show improvement, counties could be penalized by restricting funding. Health rankings for any county in the country can be viewed at www.countyhealthrankings.org.
- Back in December, she received a letter from the Health Department announcing an allocation of limited state funding for the period of 1/1/15 – 3/31/16. We applied expecting it would be funds to offset some of our costs like we have in the past, but were notified we are eligible but the funds must be used to provide direct payment to individual employees, 2% COLA to employees who provide direct care, in this instance WIC employees. The funds can't be used to offset the current salary. It would be considered a bonus. Mr. Pitts stated he doesn't feel it is a good idea. We can opt out. The State wasn't forthright about the specifics of this program when it came out. Ms. Idleman stated she feels the state is inserting themselves in the process and feels we should opt out. A motion to opt out of accepting this funding, was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Supervisors Campbell, Pitts, Gang and adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sandy Huffer, Deputy Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors*